

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/GB2005/000205

International filing date (day/month/year)
21.01.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)
23.01.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
A61L9/12, A61L9/05, E03D9/03

Applicant
RECKITT BENCKISER (UK) LIMITED

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☒ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1b(s)(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d
Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Authorized Officer

Haderlein, A

Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2095



**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/GB2005/000205

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/GB2005/000205

Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- ☐ the entire international application,
- ☒ claims Nos. 19

because:

- ☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
- ☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
- ☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
- ☒ no international search report has been established for the whole application or for said claims Nos. 19
- ☐ the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions in that:
 - the written form ☐ has not been furnished
 - ☐ does not comply with the standard
 - the computer readable form ☐ has not been furnished
 - ☐ does not comply with the standard
- ☐ the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.
- ☐ See separate sheet for further details

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/GB2005/000205

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43b/s.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-18
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-18
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-18
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V (Reasoned statement under Rule 42bis.1(a)(i) PCT with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement)

1. Novelty

- 1.1 US-A-2 760 209 (D1)** discloses (see Fig.4) a device for dispensing a fluid at a locus, the device comprising a reservoir (20,21), a syphonic action elongate liquid delivery means (27) having a proximal end inside the reservoir adjacent the bottom thereof and a distal end from which the fluid is dispensed as a liquid in the case the reservoir is filled with a liquid, or a vapour in the case the reservoir is filled with a vapour (see col.3, l.62 et seq.). The device has a U-shaped opening adapted to engage resiliently over the rim of a vessel. The device is compressible (col.2, l.24/25). Therefore, the subject-matter of claims 1-14, 17, and 18 is not novel over D1 (Art. 33(2) PCT).
- 1.2 US-A-5 347 661 (D2)** discloses (see Fig.3) a device for dispensing a fluid at a locus, the device comprising a reservoir (20), an elongate wick (36) having a proximal end inside the reservoir adjacent the bottom thereof and a distal end from which the fluid is dispensed as a liquid in the case the reservoir is filled with a liquid, or a vapour in the case the reservoir is filled with a gas. The device has a U-shaped opening (36) adapted to engage resiliently over the rim of a vessel. The disclosure of D2 is novelty destroying for the subject-matter of at least claims 1-10, and 13-18 (Art. 33(2) PCT).
- 1.3 US-A-5 906 298 (D3)** discloses (see Fig.3) a device for dispensing a fluid at a locus, the device comprising a reservoir (12), an elongate wick (16) having a proximal end inside the reservoir adjacent the bottom thereof and a distal end from which the fluid is dispensed as a liquid in the case the reservoir is filled with a liquid, or a vapour in the case the reservoir is filled with a gas. The device has fastening means (20,24). The disclosure of D3 is novelty destroying for the subject-matter of at least claims 1-4, 8-10, and 13-18 (Art. 33(2) PCT).
- 1.4 US-A-3 953 902 (D4)** discloses (see Fig.1) a device for dispensing a fluid at a locus, the device comprising a reservoir (20), a tube (90) having a proximal end inside the reservoir adjacent the bottom thereof and a distal end from which the fluid is dispensed as a liquid in the case the reservoir is filled with a liquid, or a vapour in the

case the reservoir is filled with a gas. The device has a U-shaped opening (26) adapted to engage resiliently over the rim of a vessel. By flushing the toilet, the device can be primed by a person (cf. col.5, l.47 et seq.) The disclosure of D4 is novelty destroying for the subject-matter of at least claims 1-11, 13, 14, 17, and 18 (Art. 33(2) PCT).

- 1.5 **WO 01/44591 A (D5)** discloses (see Fig.8) a device for dispensing a fluid at a locus, the device comprising a reservoir (18), an elongate syphoning means (46,44; capillary channels 48) having a proximal end (29,31) inside the reservoir adjacent the bottom thereof and a distal end (40) from which the fluid is dispensed as a liquid in the case the reservoir is filled with a liquid, or a vapour in the case the reservoir is filled with a gas. The device has a U-shaped opening (Fig.7, item 12) adapted to engage resiliently over the rim of a vessel. The disclosure of D5 is novelty destroying for the subject-matter of at least claims 1-3, and 8-18 (Art. 33(2) PCT).

2. **Industrial Applicability**

The possibilities of industrial application arise from throughout the description (Art. 33(4) PCT).